INFORMATION USAGE PATTERN OF SELF FINANCING HIGHER

TECHNICAL INSTITUTION - A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

This article is made to determine the Information Access Pattern of Self-Financing Higher Technical Institution. For this study we have taken information access pattern among the users of SRR Engineering College, Chennai as sample. A sample of 150 students and Faculty members of the college selected randomly was studied. Both the faculty members and students are having more knowledge to utilize the library and Library resources. Nowadays students are very much interested to seek the information in different ways. They are also getting information on Net. This paper presents the various attitudes and behavior in seeking information from engineering college libraries by users. Analysis shows that students, Scholars and teachers have been shown more affection to formal collection in libraries. As well as Information seeking from electronic resources with internet has given more preference. Impact of ICT (Information Communication Technology has done more for users of Engineering college Libraries. Electronic resources used only for research and knowledge updating, trends in reading books and other printed materials most recognized by all the users.

KEYWORDS: Information Access Pattern, SRR Engineering College, Strategy of Searching, ICT, Utilization of Library Services

INTRODUCTION

Self-Financing Engineering College libraries are those institutions which are run by Private management. All activities, functions, and aims are the same for both Self-Financing Engineering college libraries and government Engineering college libraries. Self-Financing Engineering college libraries get their operating expenses from donations, Tuition fees from students fees. Private Engineering college library funds are provided by Management, Students fees and donors.

Private managements maintain Self-Financing Engineering College libraries. They have the right to allocate the funds for both recurring and nonrecurring expenses. The administrators of these libraries create policies for management and administration. Government engineering college libraries, by contrast, must adhere to government rules and regulations for the allocation of funds and other administrative matters.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Aragudige Nagaraja, K. C. Gangadhar, M. Vasanthakumar, (2011) "Whether big deals are really big for engineering college libraries?: Or is there any need for better model" , It is evident that most colleges only subscribed IEL

online through INDEST. Some colleges have subscribed to different resources from more than one publisher. The bundles of resources subscribed through INDEST have not fully supported all the courses offered by the institutions. It is revealed that the bibliographical databases for searching the literature in technological sciences were not subscribed to by any colleges participating in INDEST.

V. K. Thomas, Chitra Satpathi, J. N. Satpathi, (2010) "Emerging challenges in academic librarianship and role of library associations in professional updating", It is found that the modern academic librarian, besides the common attributes, should be technology-savvy and eager to learn and adopt any technology development for the benefit of users. Regular updating of professionals is sine qua non. In the Indian context, it is found that professional bodies like IASLIC did play a yeoman's role in bringing India to the forefront of global librarianship. It is concluded that India does need a well-laid out policy and programmes of updating and equipping its librarians continuously and can benefit from the experiences of ALA and CILIP.

Christine Urquhart, Rhian Thomas, Ray Lonsdale, Siân Spink, Alison Yeoman, Roger Fenton, Chris Armstrong, (2003) "Uptake and use of electronic information services: trends in UK higher education from the JUSTEIS project", suggested that Implementation of electronic services and technology are very much useful for accessing and retrieving the information.

Reginald Clarke, (1999) "User education at the Main Library of the University of the West Indies, St Augustine: a historical chronicle", reveals that Library orientation tours and Different approaches are described for user education.

Kuan-nien Chen, Pei-chun Lin, (2011) "Information literacy in university library user education", Librarian should play leading role in the design and operation program for information access pattern of users of Library.

Satish Arya, Kallol Das Talukdar, (2010) "Use and effectiveness of internet services and resources in the Delhi College of Engineering", reveals that Information seeking behavior from internet by using various tools and services to easily attain the search.

From the above literatures explains and suggests information seeking behavior of users of academic libraries. This study explores the information-seeking behavior of undergraduates, postgraduate Students and Faculty Members of SRR Engineering College.

OBJECTIVES

- To identify the purpose of collecting information from the library and the various sources and services employed.

- To study the respondents' quantum of time utilization and purpose of library visit.

- To study the respondent's satisfaction about the available library resources and services.

- To analyze the respondent's knowledge in e- resources and their extent of utilization.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

To analyze Information Usage pattern of Self Financing Higher Technical Institution, the information Gathering pattern among the users of SRR Engineering College has been taken as study area.

METHODOLOGY

This study aims at analyzing the information Usage pattern among the users of SRR Engineering College Chennai to study Information Usage pattern of Self Financing Higher Technical Institution. In this study a total of 150 users were selected, out of which 30 users belonged to the Engineering faculty and the remaining 120 were students. While selecting the sample, stratification method has been adopted with a view to relative weight age to the respondents of different categories. Thus, the sampling of the study belongs to the stratified random sampling method. All the users responded and the total number of filled-in questionnaires received was 150.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1: Category wise Distribution of Respondents

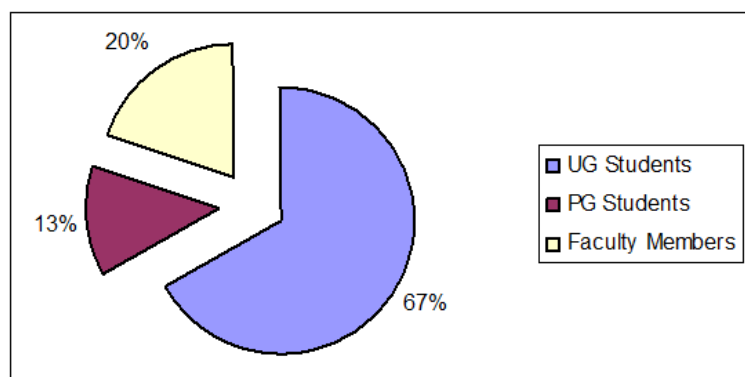| Category	Number of Respondents	% of Respondents
UG Students	100	67%
PG Students	20	13%
Faculty Members	30	20%
Total	**150**	**100%**

Figure 1: Category Wise Distribution of Respondents

From the above Table 1 and Figure 1, clearly indicates 80 % Respondents were students and remaining 20% were Faculty members of SRR Engineering College.

Table 2: Category Wise Users Visit in Libraries

Category	Everyday	Once in a Week	More than Once in a Week	Once in a Fortnight	Once in a Month	As and When Required	Total
Students	20	50	12	18	5	15	**120**
Faculty	10	5	5	3	2	5	**30**
Total	**30(20%)**	**55(37%)**	**17(11%)**	**21(14%)**	**7(5%)**	**20(13%)**	**150(100%)**

Table 2 Reflects

- Most of them using library using weekly once during the library hour (37%).

- For seeing newspapers and magazines every day visiting the library (20%).

- 11% of the respondents visiting the library once in a fortnight ie for return/renew their borrowed books.

Table 3: Strategy of Searching

Category	By Title	By Author	By Keywords	By Publishers	By Year/Period	Total
Students	60	26	14	7	13	**120**
Faculty	12	7	6	3	2	**30**
Total	**72(48%)**	**33(22%)**	**20(13%)**	**10(7%)**	**15(10%)**	**150(100%)**

Table 3 clearly indicates nearly half of them (48%) of the users search by title, 22% of the respondent's responded search by author. 10% of the respondent's responded search by year /Period of Publications especially journals/Periodicals.

Table 4: Respondent's Wise Source of Collecting Materials

Category	Subject Related Text Books	Reference Books	Journals/ Periodicals	Project Reports	CD -ROM	Total
Students	74	18	8	17	3	**120**
Faculty Members	13	6	7	0	4	**30**
Total	**87(58%)**	**24(16%)**	**15(10%)**	**17(11%)**	**7(5%)**	**150(100%)**

More than half of the users (58%) responded subject related text books are the main source of collecting materials, 16% of the users responded reference books are the source for collecting materials.

Table 5: Category wise Methods of Searching Library Information

Category	Searching in the Shelf	By Using Catalogue	Asking Help from Librarian	Through Internet	Total
Students	60	10	14	36	**120**
Faculty	9	4	4	13	**30**
Total	**69(46%)**	**14(9%)**	**18(12%)**	**49(33%)**	**150(100%)**

Table 5, shows that 46% of the users collecting their information by searching in the shelves. 33% of them use internet as searching engine in library. 12% of respondents responded asking help from library professionals to attain their needs.

Table 6: Category Wise Extent of Utilization of Library Resources and Services

Category	Printed Resources			Digital Resources			Internet Services		
	High Level	Moderate Level	Low Level	High Level	Moderate Level	Low Level	High Level	Moderate Level	Low Level
Students	100	12	8	64	33	23	43	27	50
Faculty	18	7	5	14	4	12	15	3	12
Total	**118(79%)**	**19(13%)**	**13(8%)**	**78(52%)**	**37(25%)**	**35(23%)**	**58(39%)**	**30(20%)**	**62(41%)**

79% of the users utilize printed sources. (Ref Table 6)

52% of the users utilize Digital Resources (Ref Table 6)

39% of the users Utilize Internet Services (Ref Table 6)

Table 7: Satisfactory Level of the Users by Sources and Services

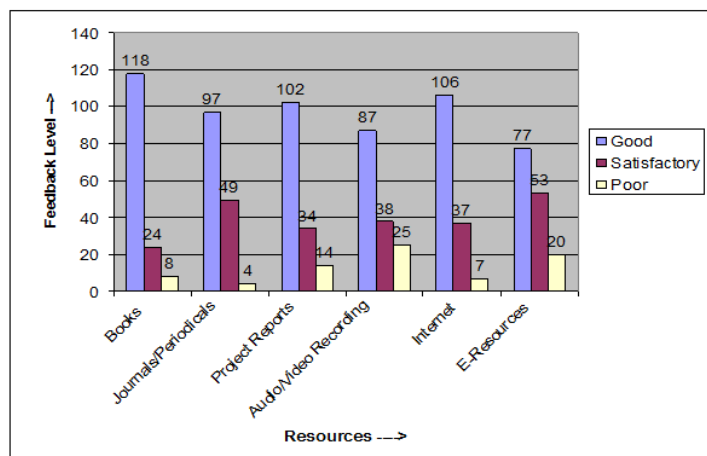| Category	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
Books	118(79%)	24(16%)	8(5%)
Journals/Periodicals	97(65%)	49(33%)	4(2%)
Project Reports	102(68%)	34(23%)	14(9%)
Audio/Video Recording	87(58%)	38(25%)	25(17%)
Internet	106(71%)	37(25%)	7(4%)
E-Resources	77(52%)	53(35%)	20(13%)

Figure 2: Satisfactory Level of the Users by Source and Services

We can find out 95% of the users are fully satisfied with the books from the above Table 7 and Figure 2. 96% of the users satisfied with Internet services, 98% of the users satisfied with Journals /Periodicals. (Ref. Table 7 and Figure 2)

SUGGESTIONS

It was requested to the users to give suggestions for improvements or any problems they faced while using the library facilities or services. Accordingly, users' suggestions are listed as:

- Library should arrange more multiple copies of documents in all fields. Books of latest edition should be acquired. Library should also acquire more reference sources to satisfy the needs of the users.

- It is also recommended that there should be no restriction for photocopying from an assortment of encyclopedias, because it is beyond financial reach of scholars/researchers.

- In order to promote the use of books it is advised to have a functional building with provision for pleasant, natural and electrical light, soothing interior, good looking furniture, comfortable chairs, Air- Condition and other such facilities.

- All faculties insist on computerization of the library service and connection of all the libraries through the Local Area Network (LAN).

- The timings of the Internet service should be increased and if possible, the service should be made available round the clock so that the users can make maximum use of the Internet facility.

- More computers with the latest specifications and multimedia kit should be installed so that the users can use Internet telephony, video-conferencing, chatting and other useful services of the Internet.

CONCLUSIONS

From the study Information usage Pattern of Self Financing Higher Educational Institution, we can identified most of them satisfied with Printed resources and interestingly trends changes from Printed to E-resources as well as Internet services(Ref. Table 6 & 7). Subject related Text books and Reference books are very much utilized by the users rather than other materials (Ref. Table 4). It is evident that most of them (82%) of the users use the library more than once in month for their needs (Ref. Table 2).

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